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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Keiji ENDO et al. CONF.: 2206  
SERIAL NO: 09/590,375 GROUP: 1652  
FILED: June 9, 2000 EXAMINER: E. Slobodyansky  
FOR: MUTANT  $\alpha$ -AMYLASES

TELECENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 13, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 13, 2001, the due date for Reply being extended two (2) months to May 13, 2002, by petition herein, the following remarks and amendments are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Amended) A mutant  $\alpha$ -amylase obtained by making a substitution or deletion of at least one amino acid residue of specific positions in SEQ ID NO:1, or by making a substitution or deletion of at least one amino acid residue corresponding to the above-mentioned amino acid residue in a sequence having at least 70% homology to SEQ ID NO:1,